



# MEDIA RELEASE

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## **People in need to benefit from St Joseph's student's ingenuity and open hearts**

People in need across Far North Queensland will benefit from the ingenuity and desire of St Joseph's Primary School students to make a difference in their community.

Students have designed their own charity donation bin which to be unveiled at the school on Friday, with donations going to the local Vinnies volunteer members to help the charity's efforts to alleviate poverty in the Far North.

Vinnies FNQ Membership and Development Officer Davina Hickling said the new donation initiative is an extension of an already impactful relationship between the school and Vinnies.

"The students have been working with our Vinnies Youth team this year exploring social justice issues that exist around the country and the world, but more importantly locally," she said.

"The students also looked at fashion recycling and the positive environmental impact it can have on a global scale - they wanted to have a practical and effective way to make a tangible difference to people in need in their community that was also eco-conscious.

"We think they have done a fantastic job."

The school community will be able to donate second hand clothes from Friday, with the students also helping to collect and sort the clothes for Vinnies volunteer members to distribute to local families in need.

"The school is a huge supporter of our annual Christmas Appeal which brightens the Christmas of countless families and individuals in our region who would otherwise go without," Ms Hickling said.

"The new donation bin at the school will increase our ability to respond to demand from low income families for quality clothing, thereby saving them money that they can use to pay bills or put food on the table."

**Media are invited to attend the unveiling of the student designed charity bin at 8.30am on Friday (18 October) at St Joseph's Primary School at 13 Loeven Street Paramatta Park. Vinnies staff and volunteers will be available for interview.**

Vinnies has assisted more than 10,692 people in Far North Queensland, 4710 of them were children under the age of 16.

## **ENDS.**

Media contact: Vinnies Queensland Communications Officer Joshua Paterson.  
Phone: 0408 675 567 | Email: [joshua.paterson@svdpqld.org.au](mailto:joshua.paterson@svdpqld.org.au)